

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

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Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/05/14

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, June 5, 2014, at the Administration Building. Mrs. Brody called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida, Dr. Shea, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon and Mr. Tarro. Absent was Mr. Fuller.

Mrs. Kate Brody introduced School Committee members present at the meeting: Mr. Patrick Guida, Dr. Robert Shea and Dr. Paula Dominguez. Mrs. Brody also introduced the Administration and Central Office Staff: Superintendent Mr. Michael Messore, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mrs. Paula Dillon, Director of Administration and Finance Mr. Ronald Tarro, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Mrs. Elizabeth Levesque. School Committee member Mr. Scott Fuller was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Paula Montesi, Primrose Hill School Principal, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the district:

The Barrington High School Girls' Lacrosse team are state champions. The team went undefeated during the regular season and currently ranks 116th nationally.

The Barrington High School Stagemasters Drama Club performed *Fairy Tale: The Ever After*, by Kevin Stone, at the 2014 Rhode Island Drama Festival and received an Excellence Award for their performance. Senior Madison Emond received the Terry Murray Performance Award and Scholarship from the Rhode Island Theatre Education Association and the Rhode Island Educational Theatre Association. Senior Olivia Casale received the Stanley Anderson Technical Theatre Award and Scholarship from the Rhode Island Theatre Education Association and the Rhode Island Educational Theatre Association. Sophomores Jack Fortin and Olivia Cardarelli received All-State Acting Awards.

The Barrington High School Computer Club finished in third place overall at the American Computer Science League All Star Competition in Colorado in May. The Barrington team, Seniors Liam Callanan and Cassidy Laidlaw, and Junior Teddy Ni, was one of only three teams to earn a perfect score on the programming section of the competition.

Mrs. Claudia Couto's Hampden Meadows School 5th Grade Homeroom 17 was featured in the lead paragraph of the Providence Journal's front page May 30, 2014 article titled *Special Olympics in R.I. Marks Its 46th Year*. Later in the article, Barrington students and their signs were acknowledged including Trevor Mohlman and Alice Fisher. The students opted to take their field trip to the University of Rhode Island's Keaney Gymnasium to cheer on the 200 Special Olympics athletes.

Rhode Island Commissioner of Education Deborah Gist visited Hampden Meadows School on June 2, 2014 and read a book on segregation and the Great Depression titled *Uncle Jed's Barbershop* to students in Mrs. Claudia Couto and Mrs. Christine Waring's room.

Barrington High School Senior Cassidy Laidlaw competed at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, California in May and won two awards: Third Place award from

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NASA and the Fourth Place award in the Computer Science category.

BPS Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Mr. Messore introduced the co-presidents of the Barrington Education Foundation (BEF), Mrs. Anna Clancy and Mrs. Deanna Donnelly, who provided an overview of the collaboration between the district and BEF. Mrs. Clancy and Mrs. Donnelly shared their video titled *BEF is the Difference* and spoke about their partnership with the school PTOs. The BEF also works with the district in creating grant opportunities that impact the student experience. Mrs. Clancy added that BEF is working to strengthen their new initiatives and fundraising to reach the entire community to let them know what BEF is and does, as well as create a stronger working relationship with the district.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Messore and Mrs. Dillon introduced building administrators present at the meeting who provided the Committee with an Achievement Data Report summary update. With collaboration between building administrators and Central Office administrators, the district has created a more uniform way of defining and analyzing data. Mrs. Dillon noted that the presentation, absent the Barrington High School data as Mr. Hurley is attending the Senior Banquet this evening, includes group data as well as individual school data. For Grades K-3, Primrose Hill Principal Mrs. Paula Montesi, Sowams School Principal Mr. James Callahan, and Nayatt School Principal Ms. Tracey Whitehead provided a snapshot of the Spring 2014 growth data in comparison to the Fall 2014 data for AIMSweb, STAR Math and Reading, as well as district writing common assessments for each of their schools. Questions from the Committee and discussion included how data is analyzed, growth percentiles, how instructional coaches are utilized to support teachers and students, professional development efforts, and additional supports for Math at the Sowams School. Hampden Meadows School Principal Mrs. Tracey McGee provided information on Growth Data for Grades 4-5 for STAR Math and Reading as well as common assessment data. Discussion ensued on needs relating to Math gaps for incoming fourth grade students, TenMarks and summer learning opportunities, communication with parents, and the possible future addition of an assistant principal at Hampden Meadows School. Barrington Middle School Principal Dr. Andrew Anderson presented the Spring 2014 growth summary data for Grades 6-8 on STAR Math and Reading and common assessments. Mrs. Dillon overviewed next steps and academic intervention strategies. Mrs. Brody requested that the School Committee be provided with a job description for the Instructional Coach position to help the School Committee better understand that role.

Mr. Messore presented summary information on the early stages of the district's program evaluation process. Areas of focus include evaluation of enrollment data, course offerings, course assignment, and comprehensive review of class size as well as comparison to per pupil expenditures. Mr. Tarro provided a snapshot of the FY13 and FY14 projected per pupil expenditures by subject for Barrington High School. Discussion ensued on the current practice of program evaluation and possible offering of online courses. Mr. Messore noted that next steps include continued evaluation, establishing scheduling protocols, defining parameters, and ensuring that the curriculum meets 21st century skills.

Mr. Messore reported on the district's Bullying Policy as outlined in the state regulations to report on any policy changes and on the number of bullying reports received. To maintain confidentiality, no specifics regarding the filed bullying reports were shared. Mr. Messore reported that the bullying policy report form was updated earlier in the academic year and that a total of five reports have been submitted to date.

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General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore provided updates relating to the District Strategic Communication Plan. A student forum for Barrington High School underclassmen on the sole topic of student stress will be held later this month. The communications consultant has been selected and will help to rewrite the district's crisis plan. More information on the consultant selection will be made available at the next meeting. Mrs. Dillon added that a new website has been created for summer learning opportunities and is available on the district website.

Mr. Tarro provided budget information following last week's Financial Town Meeting. The school budget has increased by \$1,038,000 (2.29%) with a net impact to taxpayers totaling \$265,511 (0.59%) due to the anticipated increase in State Aid and potential additional State Aid for All Day Kindergarten (ADK). Mr. Tarro stated that once all certified positions are filled for ADK as well as the part time Math specialist at Barrington Middle School, the focus will then be on induction coaches and the increase in athletic trainer services. Mr. Messore explained the role of the induction coaches and the possible need to look in district to provide this support.

Mr. Messore provided an update to the concussion protocol information presented to the Committee on May 1, 2014 by Mr. George Finn, Director of Athletics and Student Activities. Mr. Messore stated that the district is evaluating the feasibility of providing a certified athletic trainer services at Barrington Middle School. If funds are available, service will be provided beginning in the coming academic year.

Old Business from School Committee

Mr. Tarro presented a progress information sheet for the Building Committee. The sheet, available as a point of reference on the district website that will also be shared through school newsletters, details project summaries on Immediate Health and Safety projects and Barrington Middle School. Mr. Tarro noted that the administration will seek approval from the School Committee at the next meeting to authorize use of funds from the School Improvement Capital Reserve Fund.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to accept the request for leave of absence of Erika Koohy, PH, Special Education. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to accept the request for leave of absence of Traci Taglione, MS, Social Studies. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

New Business from School Committee

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The School Committee policy revision to the Free and Reduced-Price Meals and/or Free Milk Policy was presented and read aloud for a first reading by the Committee. Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea requested that additional language be added relating to nondiscrimination. The policy will be presented for a second reading at a future meeting.

Decision Items

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Brody reported that the new Student Representative to the School Committee will be introduced at the next meeting and requested that a discussion be held on how to acknowledge previous student representatives with a plaque or other options.

Mr. Guida requested continued discussion on personalization connected to the Barrington High School Advisory Program.

The Health and Wellness Committee held their final meeting of the academic year this morning. As a result of an update from Mrs. Patricia Beauchemin, Social Adjustment Counselor, on the effects of student transition between grades, Dr. Shea requested a future agenda item include discussion on the social emotional needs of students during grade transitions.

Dr. Dominguez requested continued discussion on the benefits of blended learning opportunities at Barrington High School and noted the well-known program at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, Virginia.

General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

Mr. Messore reported that the next regular meeting of the School Committee on Thursday, June 19, 2014 will feature a presentation on the Barrington High School Advisory Program, report on Barrington High School Achievement Data, a final update on the Lead, Educate, and Promote the Profession (LEAPP) initiative tied to Professional Learning Communities.

Mrs. Brody stated that the School Committee will meet on June 9, 2014 in Executive Session and on June 16 for the next installment of the Governance Workshop. Mrs. Brody also stated that the Barrington High School Class of 2014 Friendship Service and Graduation are scheduled June 8-9, 2014.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:30 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.